SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member has, if I may respectfully say so, has stretched the scope of this question. I would be grateful if some precision and intellectual discipline is injected into the discussion.

Idukki and Periyar Dams

*224. SHRI T. R. BALU:†

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will he Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of water in Idukki and Periyar Dams as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that both the dams lie in quoke prone areas; whether these dams have been designed to withstand quakes; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of earth quakes that took place during the recent past in this area and the details thereof; and

(d) the extent of damage caused in this area as a result of these quakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) As on 3-8-1988 quantity of water in Idukki Dam was 810 Million Cubic Metres and in Periyar Dam 201 Million Cubic Metres.

(b) Yes, Sir. Idukki Dam has been designed to withstand seismic activity. Similar provision has been made in the strengthening measures of Periyar Dam.

(c) and (d) In all, four mild earthquakes occurred in June, 1988; two on 7th June, one on 8th June and one on 21st June, but no damage to the dams has been reported.

SHRI T. R. BALU: Sir, I would like to know whether there is any threat to the Periyar Dam due to this earthquake. Further, I would like to draw the attention of this House about the bandh observed by Peermedu people along with 40,000 plantation workers. In such state of affairs, I want to know whether the Government have taken any proper steps to avoid any future damage to the dam. In order to allay the fears of the people, has the Government taken any appropriate steps?

श्रीमती कृष्णा साही : सभापति महोदय, यह दोनों डेम भूकम्प प्रबंध क्षेत्र में हैं। जोनल मानचित्र के अनुसार तीसरी जोन में पडता है और सारे हिन्दुस्तान को पांच क्षेत्रों में भूकम्प की दृष्टि से बांटा गया है। तो यह मध्यम क्षेणी में आता है।

This region is prone to occurrence of earthquakes but of the moderate intensity.

और आपने क्या पूछा था फिर से दोहरा दीजिए . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI T. R. BALU: Sir, during the Question Hour, the Minister has to answer in English when the question is asked in English. ...(*Interruption*)....

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, if the Minister knows English, she should reply in English.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both the languages are permitted and that is why, translation facility is provided. You see, the Question Hour time is very important. Please don't waste time. ....(*Interruption*)....

Are you not interested in supplementary?

SHRI T. R. BALU: My second supplementary is, do the earthquakes take place due to the tapping of the ground water source? If so, what are the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Sir, it is not concerned with earthquakes.

माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न किया है, उसके अनुसार आप यह जानना चाहते है कि इडक्की और पेरियार बांधों में जल

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri T.R. Balu.

को कितनी मात्रा थी ? भूकम्प क्षेत्रों में रहने के कारण झटका सह सकता है या नहीं ? इनका झटका तो हम सह ही रहे हैं। लेकिन जैसा यह पूछते हैं, तो मैं इनको बताना चाहती हूं।....(व्यवधान)...

Yes, I am replying. (*Interruption*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not strictly arise out of the main question.

श्रीमती कृष्णा साही : इडुक्की डेम 1996 एम.सी.एम. के अगेन्स्ट में इसका स्टोरेज 810 एम.सी.एम. था 3 अगस्त 1988 को। जिस समय के भूचाल की चर्चा आप कर रहे हैं, उस रिजर्वायार में पानी ही नहीं था।

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, of course, the Government is terribly frightened about the ensuing political earthquake, but that is different. But I would like to know because the first earthquake in Idukki district occurred on June 7th and also on the next day and in these two days, 26 shocks were recorded in the area. Following these shocks, cracks had developed in several buildings in the Idukki region. The Expert Committee of three persons has submitted a report. I would like to know from the Minister whether a detailed investigation of all the available data relating to the recent tremors will be undertaken by the Government.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Sir, Periyar dam is in the same river basin. The dam was constructed in the year 1895 but no seismic activity has been reported. वहां मिट्टी के कुछ मकानों को [illegible] थे, उनको थोड़ी क्षति हुई है। लेकिन डैम के कारण कोई भी अर्थ-क्वेक नहीं हुआ। मेरा सबंध इसी से है।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Sir, she has not understood the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Recommendation of the Election Commission

*225. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received recommendations from the Election Commission and/or others that elections to all the State Assemblies and Lok Sabha be held simultaneously to reduce consumption of time and money in election campaigns from time to time;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the suggestions in principle, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the date on which Government's attention was drawn first towards the suggestion; and

(d) the concrete and specific progress made so far in this regard and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) Such a recommendation was received from the Election Commission in 1982. It was decided not to accept it. Thereafter the Election Commission has not made any proposal in this regard.

*226. [*Transferred to the 19th August, 1988*].

Shifting of Baliapal Missile test range in Orissa

*227. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a proposal from the Orissa